



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and other features of the present invention will be more clearly understood from a consideration of the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURES 1-3 are top views of the closure lid of the invention, and illustrate how the panel door may be moved to open and close its drink window;

~~FIGURE 4 shows the snug fit of the closure lid to its container, and~~

FIGURE 4 shows an underside view of the closure lid of FIGURES 1-3 helpful in an understanding of the invention; and

FIGURE 5 illustrates the free sliding of the panel door with respect to the window.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

FIGURE 1 shows a top view of the closure lid of the invention as having a top surface 12, a slotted window 14 and a boss 16 atop a panel door 18 in position where the slotted window 14 is closed by the door. FIGURE 2 shows the same view of the closure lid where the boss 16 moves the panel door 18 forwardly in the direction of the arrow A to slightly open the slotted window 14 as at 20, where a tilting at an angle of a beverage container allows a dispensing of its contents through the opening 20. FIGURE 3 shows the closure lid with the boss 16 moving the door 18 still further forward, in providing a larger opening 22 to allow a greater amount of liquid beverage to be

dispensed upon tilting the container. Reference numeral 24, in this respect, represents an edge surface at the underside 26 of the closure lid (FIGURE 4) in snugly fitting onto the lip at the top of the container (not shown). In a preferred embodiment, the boss 16 and the panel door 18 are fabricated of a 1-piece molded plastic composition. The top and underside surfaces of the closure lid may be fabricated of plastic, as a different material composition than the beverage drink container.

FIGURE 4 also illustrates first and second pairs of grooved tracks raised from the underside 26 of the closure lid, downwardly in the direction internal of the beverage drink container once placed into position. Such pairs of grooved tracks 28L, 28R and 30L, 30R span opposite sides of the slotted window 14, with the grooves being spaced as in FIGURE 5 to receive the panel door 18 and to allow it to slide within the grooves in the direction of the arrows A and B, forwardly and back thereby opening and closing off the slotted window 14. Although one pair of grooved tracks 28L, 28R may be sufficient where a "cold" beverage fills the drink container, a second pair of grooved tracks 30L, 30R inwardly thereof is preferable for a "hot" beverage in further capturing the panel door 18 as finger actuation opens and closes the slotted window 14 in controlling the amount of beverage to be dispensed. To further limit the amount of liquid content that can be dispensed, an additional raised track 32 extends inwardly from the underside 26 at an angle with respect to the grooved tracks to limit how far

forwardly in the direction of the arrow A the panel door 18 can be slid. (Such raised track 32 is shown at a 90° angle to act as a "stop" if trying to open the panel door 18 too far.) In this embodiment, the raised track 32 -- as well as the first and second pairs of grooved tracks 28L, 28R and 30L, 30R -- may be constructed of a molded plastic composition.

Because the panel door 18 and its boss 16 are of a 1-piece molded plastic unit, the boss 16 will be seen as to not break away or become loose from the panel door 18 in usage; this allows for repetitive sliding movement of the door 18 forward and back until the drink beverage in the container is consumed.

As thus described, the closure lid will be seen to be round and conforming to the beverage cup design. The closure lid's window cut-out allows for the consumption of the beverage within, whether "hot" or "cold". The opening in the closure lid represented by the slotted window 14 is selected sufficiently long to permit the free and unimpeded motion of the finger panel door 18 to open and close. And, the slotted window 14 extends from a fixed point near the center of the lid to the edge of the lid, thus allowing for one's lips to be placed at the edge of the closure lid in slowly sipping the beverage.

The underside 26 of the closure lid incorporates the pairs of molded and raised grooved tracks to secure the panel door 18, with the ~~grooves 40, 42~~ pairs of grooves being spaced sufficiently to ensure that the panel door 18 freely slides when finger actuated opened or closed (FIGURE 5, 28L, 28R and 30L,

30R spaced from the underside 26). Only a small degree of finger pressure is thus required, with the panel door 18 being selected thin enough to both allow its snug fit within the grooves of the tracks and to allow a free gliding through in permitting an easy dispensing of the beverage once the container is tilted at an angle for sipping or drinking its contents.

While there have been described what are considered to be preferred embodiments of the present invention, it will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art that modifications can be made without departing from the scope of the teachings herein. For example, although a preferred construction of the invention is one where the closure lid is of dissimilar material composition than its beverage container to which it snugly fits, it will be understood that the two could be fabricated of the same plastic material to have a more permanent take-out beverage container combination, as compared to one which could be disposed of after single use. For at least such reason, therefore, resort should be had to the claims appended hereto for a true understanding of the invention.